

Dave Wetzel Comment and WDFW Reply on Soos Creek Hatchery MDNS

From: Mackey, Douglas W (DFW)
Sent: Tuesday, December 03, 2013 9:15 AM
To: WetzelDJ@puyallup.k12.wa.us
Cc: Zeigler, Robert C (DFW); Wilson, Michael L (DFW)
Subject: Soos Creek Hatchery SEPA Comment Received

Dear Mr. Wetzel,

Thank you for letter responding to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) public comment period for the Soos Creek Hatchery Redevelopment. We concur with your sense of the importance of the role of this hatchery in sustaining salmon populations and as an educational experience.

Your letter references this experience as the highlight of the year for many students and a reason that some go on to volunteer at the hatchery. Please accept our gratitude for what you do to help students learn about salmon, their life cycle, and their value in the larger web of life.

WDFW is continuing the work on the other permits required for this project and remains hopeful that construction can begin during the coming year.

Sincerely,
Douglas

Douglas Mackey
Fish and Wildlife Biologist, WDFW
Capital and Asset Management Program
(360) 902-8380

From: Wetzel, David J. [<mailto:WetzelDJ@puyallup.k12.wa.us>]
Sent: Friday, November 08, 2013 5:04 PM
To: SEPADesk2 (DFW)
Subject: Comment on SEPA No. 13074

To whom it may concern:

I have been bringing students out to the Soos Creek Salmon hatchery nearly every year dating back to the early 1990's, where they have been able to help harvest Chinook or coho. This experience has been the highlight of the year for many students, with several of these kids applying to work as a volunteer at the hatchery during the rest of the year. So many kids request to go a second year even though they are no longer in my class.

I also know that my school is only one of many that bring students to the Soos Creek for fall spawning work.

The Soos Creek salmon hatchery has been the site for experiences and memories that many of my students will never forget.

The staff there are very understanding and patient with my students regardless of their quirky and even of-putting behaviors at times. They are always keeping an eye out for their safety and ready to explain what they are doing and why.

We could not ask for a better learning environment for our kids.

We sincerely hope to see the Soos Creek Hatchery become modernized and remodeled in a way that makes it even better at what it does for the salmon resources of Washington state and the students of the south Puget Sound.

Thank you for your consideration!

Dave